

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Rob Moitoza
6730 - 18th Ave. S.W.
Seattle, Wa. 98106

02-277

December 26, 2002

Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Abernathy,

Please read the enclosed article and consider reinstating the fairness doctrine and tightening restrictions on corporate monopolization of the radio and television industry. Many of us feel that we are losing our democracy, and that freedom of the press is rapidly disappearing in the United States of America. I appeal to you not to let this happen. If you believe in the ideals this country was founded on, you must allow the airwaves to be accesible to all points of view... otherwise we will become just like Iraq or Iran or any of the other countries we are fighting against.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Moitoza". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rob Moitoza

Posted on Mon, Dec. 23, 2002

Talk radio needs some balance

BY WAYNE MADSEN
Commentator

It is high time for the Federal Communications Commission to re-institute its traditional Fairness Doctrine and guarantee equal access for all points of view over the public — that is — our airwaves.

The Fairness Doctrine was scrapped by the FCC in 1987 during a time when Ronald Reagan was out to get the government out of practically every facet of our lives. But the deregulation by the FCC of radio only ensured that mega-media corporations were able to gobble up more and more independently owned stations and then offer up zealots like Rush Limbaugh and what Sen. Tom Daschle, D-S.D., calls Rush wannabes on hundreds of radio stations across the country.

Soon, both local and nationally syndicated Rush wannabes began offering a daily concoction of right-wing politics to a public that largely ignored their local newspapers and relied upon the radio rants for their news.

In some cases, the vitriol came directly from the fax machines of the Republican National Committee. In other cases, the propaganda echoed that written in the Washington Times or on right-wing Internet sites like the Drudge Report, World Net Daily and News Max.

The political misuse of the commercial airwaves was what Al Gore was talking about when he recently told the New York Observer that "the media is kind of weird these days on politics, and there are some major institutional voices that are, truthfully speaking, part and parcel of the Republican Party."

Liberal alternatives cannot be found on the public commercial airwaves. A few liberals, like Jim Hightower, found an outlet on a few public radio stations, but their reach to the general public is worse than Radio Free Europe's during the days of Soviet radio jamming.

After the events of Sept. 11, it can be argued whether the right-wing hosts are actually helping to destroy America's way of life rather than claiming to protect it.

Daschle said the talk-show blatherers create "an emotional movement in this country among some people... who are then so energized as to go out and hurt somebody."

Daschle, it should be noted, was a recipient of deadly anthrax in the mail soon after Sept. 11 when the radio waves were flooded with invective

tones of hate and retribution. And it does not help when a Rush wannabe in Boston refers to the soon-to-be Senate minority leader as "Dass-hole." Rush Limbaugh may be, as Sen. John McCain claimed, a mere "circus clown," but we must recall what happened to one of America's last liberal radio talk show hosts.

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Democratic Sen. Richard Durbin of Illinois told National Public Radio that there is "station after station of right-wing screamers."

With Gore, Daschle and Durbin all finally aware of the misuse of the public commercial airwaves by the Republican Party and its rightist allies, the FCC's commissioners must revisit the Fairness Doctrine.

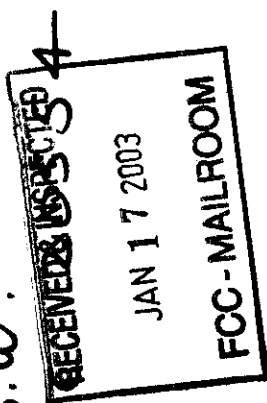
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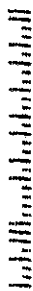
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445- 12th St. S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

CD

Attn: Commissioner
Abernathy



Confirmed
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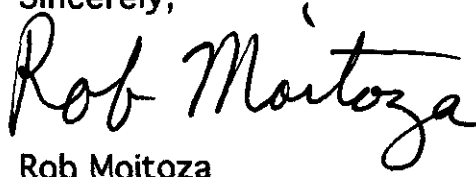
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P.S. Thank you for your
work on behalf of the
people of the U.S. I have
heard you are the only one
fighting for our rights.
You are appreciated?

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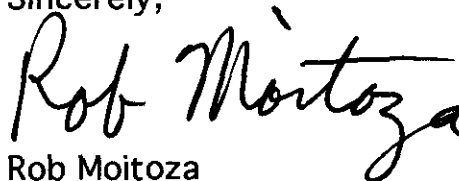
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